



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

We will love one another in Christ knowing that Jesus loves us very much



Newsletter 19th September 2025

Our attendance target is 97%. Please strive to make every effort to ensure your child attends school every day.

Attendance	Nursery	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
w.c. 1.9.2025	75%	90.7%	92.9%	96.8%	96.6%	88.7%	100%	98.1%
w.c. 8.9.2025	86.2%	97.3%	91.1%	93.4%	100%	94.1%	98.6%	99.3%
w.c. 15.9.2025	93.1%	93.8%	85.6%	98.5%	99.3%	92%	99.7%	95.9%

Dear Families,

It's been a wonderful start to the academic year, and everyone seems to have settled in well for what I am sure will be another wonderful academic year at St Joseph's. Our newsletter will again be sent out every two to three weeks with as much helpful information as we can possibly provide. We have put in as many dates as possible up to half term initially. We will keep adding more as the term progresses. The PTA met this week, and they will also in turn correspond with parents regarding forthcoming events this term. The newsletter will as always coincide with our normal regular parent emails. We also will endeavour to keep parents abreast of what is happening by posting regularly on our Facebook page. Next week, I will also be sending out a parental survey. If parents could kindly complete this, it will help us in our decision making at the beginning of term.

As stipulated on many occasions, I cannot emphasise the importance of good attendance and punctuality for children at school. Tonight, all families will receive a letter outlining their child's attendance and the Trusts expectations regarding attendance. Like this year, this will be monitored every four weeks and parents will receive updated attendance letters. At this very early stage of the term, I have been particularly delighted with the reduction in term time holidays and how punctual our pupils are in the morning and with our overall attendance. Can I ask that any pupils that arrive after the 8:50 am gate closure are brought around in person to the main entrance by parents and guardians. I would appreciate also if parents would not drive cars into the staff car park for health and safety reasons unless they are disabled.

A new term is never easy for parents, so a big thank you from all of us at St Joseph's for preparing the children so well for their return to school. They all look very smart in their uniforms and have returned to school ready to learn. Can I remind parents that used uniform in great condition is available from Gateshead West Pre-Loved and can be collected from St Cuthbert's Community Hall. We again would appreciate it if parents could continue to support us over the next term with ensuring that your child has the correct PE kit and uniform and that it is fully labelled.

Fr Adrian has been in school on a number of occasions and looks forward to welcoming parents throughout the year to our class liturgies. The first Liturgy for Year 4 will be early October. Fr Adrian is also looking forward to seeing as many families as possible at our welcome mass on Tuesday 7th October at St Anne's Church at 10:00am.

Miss Graham, Mrs Lewis, Miss Carr and Mrs Callaghan would like to thank all our new nursery and reception parents for their support at the beginning of this new term, particularly in dropping pupils off in the morning. The children have quickly become independent in their first few weeks of school and

have settled in extremely quickly. We have a few nursery places still left, and I urge parents to contact school to complete a nursery admission form well in advance of your child's third birthday to avoid any disappointment.

If your child will be starting Reception class in September 2026 the window is now open to apply for school places www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Please can parents complete the Gateshead admissions form as early as possible. The window closes on 15th January 2026. Mr Naughton welcomes any Nursery and Reception parents that would like a personalised tour of the school throughout the Autumn Term, please ring the office to book a tour.

All of our clubs are now underway, and we have had a huge response. Clubs that have started this week include:

Athletics/fitness, singing, just dance, handwriting, reading, football, rosary and card club.

Although most clubs are during the day, can I ask that pupils dress in school PE kit for those clubs that are sports related not sportswear that is non-uniform. We will endeavour to run clubs outside such as football and athletics/fitness in cold and wet weather where possible; however, pupils must bring a waterproof coat, hat and spare shoes, if possible, in the event of poor weather. All clubs will be registered, and we will monitor participation closely as we have a waiting list for a number of clubs. We do have spaces still available in our Grass Roots after school club sessions, which can be booked directly at <https://www.grassrootssports.co.uk/>.



This week we have had a fantastic turnout for our class Curriculum Evenings for parents and carers. For those that couldn't attend we have sent out a copy of the presentation for parents to view. Next week we will be sending out the link to sign up to parent consultations which take place week beginning the 20th October.

Parents will have received a letter regarding the forthcoming cinema trip. We will soon be sending a similar letter regarding December's Pantomime visit. Parental contributions for these visits are essential, otherwise we just could not afford to give children these opportunities. Thank you to everyone that has made a swift payment.

Finally, a big well done to our boys and girls football teams that represented our school this week both at Winlaton and Swalwell. The girls and boys played so well, and I was really proud to see how committed they were in all of their games.



Term Dates 2025/2026

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October - Half Term

Friday 19th December - **School will close at 1:15pm**

Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January - Christmas Holidays

Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th February - Half Term

Friday 3rd April - Friday 17th April - Easter Holidays

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May - Half Term

Friday 17th July - **School will close at 1:15pm**

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 30th September - School Photographer - will take individual and sibling photographs

Thursday 2nd October - Celebration Day, free school lunch for every pupil

Thursday 2nd October - Year 5 Golf Event

Thursday 2nd October - Year 2 Attendance Reward Trip

Tuesday 7th October - Welcome Mass at St Anne's Church at 10:00am

Wednesday 8th October - Year 4 Liturgy, Year 4 parents & families welcome at 9:00 am in the school hall

Wednesday 19th November - Year 5 Liturgy, Year 5 parents & families welcome at 9:00 am in the school hall

Thursday 27th November - Flu Immunisation

Wraparound Care



Over the last couple of weeks, the children have been settling back into routine and enjoying many crafts and activities, from creating a very big space rocket, to observing our environment within forest school and talking about the changes we might see throughout the year.

The children have also been welcoming new friends who have joined us in our after-school club and enjoying making new friendships.



Over the next few weeks, we have lots of great activities and crafts planned. Keep a look out on Facebook for our weekly posts and the things we have planned for the weeks to come.

Children's Achievements out of School

Well done to all the children who took part in the children's Great North Run this year.

Cora and Lucy took part and raised over £1300 for the Percy Hedley School, well done girls, what a fantastic effort.



Awards

5th September 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Oscar - for coming into nursery with a smile and cheering everyone up!
Reception	Ava	Henry - for settling like a superstar this week.
Year 1	Erin	Novia - for a wonderful start to year 1. Always ready to listen and a great example to her peers. Well done Novia.
Year 2	Ezra	Isla - for having a great start in Year 2. She's been happy and helpful in class, very friendly and has looked after her younger sister who has just started at our school.
Year 3	Gabriel	Karl - for settling in Year 3 so well and setting a good example to others.
Year 4	Carmen	Aaron - for settling in so well into Year 4 and being a fabulous role model to his new peers.
Year 5	Ralphie	Michael - for showing care and support to others.
Year 6	Niyah	Jessica - for following Jesus in all she does.

12th September 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Adriel - for settling in well into Nursery routine.
Reception	Patrick	Rosie - for showing courage and determination and doing it with a smile!
Year 1	Luna	Alannah - for a wonderful example to her peers, always ready to listen and learn. Well done Alannah.
Year 2	Lincoln	William - for cheering up his friends and being very helpful in class.
Year 3	Zara	Albert - for starting to be more positive in his attitude to learning.
Year 4	Oliver	Abigail - for working hard and settling into her new class.
Year 5	Venice	William - for working hard and being a great role model for Year 5.
Year 6	Samuel	Harper - for writing excellent multi-clause sentences.

19th September 2025

	Champion Handwriter	Golden Chair
Nursery		Mollie - for coming in all week with a beautiful smile on her face!
Reception	Elsie	Cass - for being a shining star in our classroom to all around him.
Year 1	Alice	Kian - for always working hard in all that he does and putting in 100% effort. Well done Kian a great example to your peers. Keep up the good work.
Year 2	Deborah	Esmae - for taking part as an enthusiastic member of the class. Esmae is very hardworking, was kind to her friends at dance club and goes the extra mile to challenge herself.

Year 3	Yasmin	Nell - for showing determination in maths.
Year 4	Katie	Marnie - for trying really hard to improve across the curriculum.
Year 5	Leo	Yanni - for showing fabulous care and support to his peers.
Year 6	Freddie	Lilly - for great enthusiasm across the curriculum.

News

Nursery

We are so proud of our fabulous nursery children for settling in so brilliantly.

They have loved making new friends and getting to know their teachers. We have had lots of fun taking part in Yoga during our music and movement sessions and working very hard on our fine motor skills.

Well done boys and girls!



Reception

What a wonderful start to their St Joseph's journey our new reception class have had. The children have settled extremely well and have been enjoying exploring the new environment. Making new friends and building relationships is such an important part of our children's development and we have been so impressed with their confidence and kindness in doing so.

We have tried to get outside into our area whilst the sun has still been shining. We have used our mud kitchen to create new recipes, our construction area to build and play and we even had a go at washing the farm animals with toothbrushes!

Reception have already started learning all about letters and sounds in phonics, the numbers 1, 2 and 3 in maths and exploring a book called Rosie's Walk!

Most importantly the children seem happy and are thriving already. Well done Reception. Your teachers are very proud of you!



Year 1

The children in Year 1 have had a wonderful start to this new academic year.

They have enjoyed settling into their new classroom with new teachers, exploring the different areas of provision and resources, and are continuing to build relationships with their classmates. It's been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and curiosity as they embrace new routines and learning opportunities.

Well done boys and girls we are very proud of you.



In English we have been reading the story 'The Frog and the Prince'. In the story the princess lost her golden ball. The children spent a lot of time working with their partner to think about a time where they may have lost something that is precious to them. We used the stem sentences 'Once I lost... I felt... and In the end I ...' to help our discussions.



Year 2

What a fantastic beginning we have had in Year 2! We have settled into our new classroom and have been very eager to start the new school year.

Through working as a team, we have supported everyone to feel valued and have created a whole class jigsaw with a new member of the class, Scout the adventure dog. The children have also been working well together during tag rugby in PE with Mr Morris and are thoroughly enjoying their music lessons where they have recorded responses to what they listen to with body language and drawings.

In English, we have been learning about the text 'Ruby's Worry' by Tom Percival, and we have advised the character Ruby on how to prevent her worry from growing. In connection to the importance of Catholic Education in mass this week, we have crafted a crayon design of Psalm 139, and the children impressed Miss Devereux with their knowledge on new beginnings; God, Jesus and what the cross means to them. We are very much looking forward to the rest of the school year and seeing what it has in store for us!





Year 3



Year 3 have had a great start to the new academic year. Moving from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 has its challenges but the children have taken it in their stride. They have helped their new teacher plus two new classmates settle into St Joseph's with their warm and welcoming attitudes.



So far, we have enjoyed exploring *The Railway Children* by E. Nesbit in our English lessons. We have been using the first person to write a diary entry plus a letter of apology - it has been fun pretending to be Peter!

We are so excited to be learning French for the first time; we have begun our languages journey by practising les voyelles - the different vowel sounds used in French. Next, we will be learning to use personal pronouns in French and some adjectives.

Our Humanities topics are Rivers and Ancient Egypt - we really enjoyed hearing a story of Howard Carter and how he ended up discovering the tomb of Tutankhamun. In Geography, we are exploring the mighty River Indus and learning lots of new vocabulary.

There are many exciting things to look forward to in Year 3 - it's going to be a wonderful year!



Year 4

It has been a pleasure to welcome Year 4 back this term! We have had a fantastic start this September. We have settled in so well and made a great start across all areas of the curriculum.

In music, we have been looking at music which may be seen on TV. We started by looking at music which could represent the weather, we used a variety of instruments to portray different weather types. This week, we looked closely at foley artists and how they use different



techniques to recreate sounds to be used in media. We were then looked closely at news programme theme tunes and discussed how some sounds more serious than others. We had to create a number of headlines which we could play an appropriate theme tune over. It was a fantastic lesson with Mr Angus, and we are all thoroughly enjoying music!



In history, we have had been studying the Roman Republic. We have been looking at the formation of Rome following the legend of Romulus and Remus. We have then been learning about how they set up their republic after having seven kings. There has been a lot of exciting facts and discussion about battles during the expansion of the Roman Republic, including the Punic Wars. It has all been very interesting and we are looking forward to learning about what happened next!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to the year and have been settling into routines these last few weeks. They've really enjoyed their new English text, Holes and have really impressed Mrs Douglas by applying their handwriting skills.

In music, they've been really focused and exploring rhythm using ukuleles.

They've planned their own child-led liturgies, and they are really looking forward to delivering them to their peers in the coming weeks.

Science has been great, with the children planning and carrying out an experiment looking at asexual reproduction taking cuttings.



A great start to the year! Well done everyone!



Year 6

It has been wonderful to welcome our Year Six children back to school. They are all Year six ready and have hit the ground running. Music lessons have commenced with our specialist music teacher Mr Angus, looking at polyrhythms and call and response.

In preparation for a child-led collective worship in class each Friday, the children all planned worship linked to each week's gospel.

Well done Year Six!



Gospel

Sunday 21st September 2025 - The Dishonest Steward

Jesus said to his disciples, "There was a rich man, and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer.' Then the steward said to himself, 'Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.' Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' 'One

hundred measures of oil,' was the reply. The steward said, 'Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.' To another he said, 'And you, sir, how much do you owe?' 'One hundred measures of wheat,' was the reply. The steward said, 'Here, take your bond and write eighty.' The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light. And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."



Did any words or phrases stand out to you in the Gospel? If so, take a few moments to meditate on

them.

On behalf of Fr. Adrian, Governors and Staff, we hope you have a lovely weekend.

God Bless, Paul Naughton



ADMISSIONS 2026

School Visits Welcome

Just contact the school for an appointment

**Why not
book a visit
to see our
school?**

Part of the St Thomas More Cluster of Schools

Contact Us:
0191 414 3108
info@stjb.bwcet.com
stjosephsbaydon.bwcet.com

- All Families Welcome
- Flexible Nursery Provision, 15 & 30 Hours
- Before & After School Care
- Wide Variety of Extra Curricular Activities



Irish Dancing After School Club

St Joseph's Primary School

Tuesday's 3.15-4.15pm

Reception - Year 6

3.15pm - 4.15pm

Join us for lots of Fun, Irish Dancing, Ceili Dancing, Meeting new friends, Games, Fitness, & much more!

PROMOTING FUN, FITNESS, FRIENDSHIP & MUCH MORE

TO SIGN UP, EMAIL:
info@kellyhendryschool.com

The Friends of St Joseph's

The PTA is a dedicated group of parents, carers, relatives, and staff, who work together to enhance the educational experience for every child at St Joseph's.

Our mission is to promote collaboration, engagement and support, to ensure the best possible educational journey for each child. The PTA depends on donations and fundraising to continue.

School Events

We put on events like the school disco's, cinema trips, treat days and summer fairs

Fundraising

Coming up with fun new ways to raise money to fund events. Working with community partners and companies

Upgrades & Materials

We raise money to fund sports equipment, craft supplies and any other school needs

Support

We help support teachers, staff and the children at these events ensuring everything runs as smoothly as possible

We Need You!

Join the PTA
By simply joining the PTA you are advocating on behalf of all the children (including your own). No additional commitment is required.

Donate
Any donations, raffle prizes and baked goods you can give helps our school. All money we raise goes into activities and goods for the children.

Volunteer
There's a lot we can do together, even 1 hour of your time can help make an event great! Grandparents and relatives can even get involved.

To Join or for any further information please call Vickie on 07785 292064

GRASS ROOTS



KS1 Gymnastics After School Club

VENUE: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

DAY/TIME: Every Wednesday 15:15 – 16:30

Starting Wednesday 10th September for 13 weeks

COST: £39 (13 weeks)

COURSE DETAILS:

The course will involve floorwork, vaulting, sequences and will involve using gymnastics equipment and will be fun based!!

You will need: 1- to be collected from the school just prior to the above time
2- a PE kit, please ensure your child has footwear suitable for indoor sessions.

The after school club is open to children from Year 1 and Year 2

To secure your place, please head over to our website; www.grassrootssports.co.uk and go to the 'School Clubs' section.

The course will be listed and you can follow the online instructions to book and pay.

Any queries call Rachel on 07846539221.

GRASS ROOTS



KS2 Gymnastics After School Club

VENUE: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

DAY/TIME: Every Thursday 15:15 – 16:30

Starting Thursday 11th September for 12 weeks

COST: £36 (12 weeks)

There is **no club** on Thursday 23rd October.

COURSE DETAILS:

The course will involve floorwork, vaulting, sequences and will involve using gymnastics equipment and will be fun based!!

You will need: 1- to be collected from the school just prior to the above time
2- a PE kit, please ensure your child has footwear suitable for indoor sessions.

The after school club is open to children from Year 3 through to Year 6

To secure your place, please head over to our website; www.grassrootssports.co.uk and go to the 'School Clubs' section.

The course will be listed and you can follow the online instructions to book and pay.

Any queries call Rachel on 07846539221.